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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 24, 1980 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended July 19 totaled an estimated 16.6 billion ton-miles, 6.2 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 29 weeks of 1980 was an estimated 510 billion ton-miles, 2.7 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended July 19 totaled 404,057 cars, 12.7 percent below 1979, but 7.6 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 20.4 percent in the East, 4.8 percent in the South, and 11.8 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1979, 18 of the 21 commodity groups declined. However, loadings of both grain and coal were up 5.2 percent over last year. Twelve of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback revenue freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended July 12 totaled 27,786 cars, down 20.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1979, and 49,955 trailers and/or containers, 19.5 percent lower than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 28 weeks of the year was 903,804 cars, 9.8 percent lower than last year, and 1,643,613 trailers and/or containers, down 7.2 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 7/19/80:

	Loading in Week Ended July 19, 1980		Change from Corresponding Week 1979			Change From Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,645	I	1,601	5.2	D	3,752	10.3
Other farm products	4,397	I	836	23.5	D	278	5.9
Metallic ores	29,419	D	12,021	29.0	D	1,179	3.9
Coal	97,316	I	4,843	5.2	I	26,703	37.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	14,281	D	4,778	25.1	D	489	3.3
Nonmetallic minerals	16,234	D	208	1.3	D	777	4.6
Grain mill products	16,869	D	1,409	7.7	I	1,401	9.1
Food and kindred products	17,239	D	1,027	5.6	I	471	2.8
Primary forest products	19,955	D	1,404	6.6	I	990	5.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,506	D	3,486	29.1	I	1,166	15.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	19,106	D	2,742	12.6	I	2,111	12.4
Chemicals and allied products	23,465	D	4,256	15.4	D	739	3.1
Petroleum products	5,348	D	992	15.6	D	155	2.8
Stone, clay and glass products	14,787	D	4,578	23.6	I	50	0.3
Coke	4,098	D	3,309	44.7	I	227	5.9
Metals and products	12,407	D	6,180	33.2	I	308	2.5
Motor vehicles and equipment	11,588	D	5,429	31.9	D	990	7.9
Waste and scrap materials	9,570	D	4,997	34.3	I	456	5.0
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,387	D	2,806	23.0	I	704	8.1
All other carloads	37,298	D	6,089	14.0	I	2,361	6.8
LCL traffic	142	D	294	67.4	D	7	4.7
Total Cars Loaded	404,057	D	58,725	12.7	I	28,582	7.6
Corresponding week of 1979	462,782						

	1980	1979	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (29 Weeks)	12,607,852	13,169,581	D 4.3
Estimated Revenue Ton-Miles (in billions):			
28 Weeks Cumulative	493.4	479.1	I 3.0
Week Ended July 19	16.6	17.7	D 6.2
29 Weeks Cumulative	510.0	496.8	I 2.7

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